

The Barber County Index.

PAINTER & HERR, Publishers.
MEDICINE LODGE, KANSAS

CURRENT COMMENT.

Texas markets \$50,000,000 worth of cattle annually.

One of the most unique unions in the country is the Women Butchers' union.

Representative Cannon will be the first speaker Illinois has furnished to the house.

The coal barons cannot understand what need a common miner has for \$600 a year. Probably he will need a good deal of it to buy coal with.

An Illinois congregation ran out of church to witness a neighborhood fire. That pastor hasn't yet succeeded in frightening his church members about fire.

It is expected that the Iron Molders' Union of North America will succeed in establishing a nine-hour work-day for the craft from the first of next January throughout the United States.

Prolonged idleness among Indiana tinplate workers has been productive of the formation of a co-operative company of the workers at Gas City, who will locate a plant near Los Angeles, Cal.

When the president took a little ride for recreation in the Mississippi jungles on Sunday he carried a shotgun for protection. No experienced hunter would allow a deer to bite him even on the first day of the week.

Of the 1,148 unions making returns to the secretary of the American Federation of Labor for September on the state of trade there were 1.8 per cent. of membership out of employment. The aggregate membership was 68,604. In August, out of a total membership of 96,597 reported 1.5 per cent. were unemployed.

There appears to be only one way in which to treat the Doukhobers, and that is not to treat them at all. Let them walk the frenzy out, and let them go hungry until they have an appetite for wholesome victuals. You can't interfere with religious enthusiasm. If people want to be martyrs, let 'em, and they'll get over it.

During the last 20 years more than \$130,000,000 capital has been invested in the cotton manufacturing industry in the southern states, and it is estimated that this year will see one-half the product of the cotton mills produced south of Mason & Dixon's line. In iron, coal and other industries there has been a tremendous increase in the south.

Ex-Senator W. P. Kellogg, of Louisiana, has just returned from a trip to Europe. "All over England," says Mr. Kellogg, "I saw a little card for sale bearing these words: 'The bearer of this is hereby permitted to walk the earth and breathe the air occasionally.' The card is signed with the name of J. Pierpont Morgan, costs two cents and seems to have a large sale."

The trustees of the Whittier homestead at Haverhill, Mass., which was burned recently, have voted to restore the building exactly according to the old designs. No damage was done to the immense central chimney, built of brick laid in clay 214 years ago, and the heavy oak timbers of the first story are still serviceable. A safety deposit hitherto unknown was found in a chimney recess. Most of the relics were saved by the great exertions of the woman in charge. Whittier's writing desk was originally used by his grandfather.

Ten million dollars will be spent by the Santa Fe in building a "short line" to the Pacific coast, and when it is done the line will be just five miles shorter than it is. For those five miles the Santa Fe is not paying \$2,000,000 apiece. Instead it is giving the whole \$10,000,000 for a single half mile saved on the journey. The half mile which the Santa Fe pays so well to avoid is between La Junta and Albuquerque. It is the 2,600 feet difference in altitude between Ratón mountain, the highest point on the present line and Abo pass.

What became of the prodigious sum of \$1,622,014,000, which the railway companies in the United States earned and received from other sources in the last year, reported by the interstate commerce commission? First, \$610,713,000, or over three-eighths of the whole, went for wages. Then \$420,000,000 was paid for other expenses of operation, \$309,000,000 went for interest and taxes, \$65,638,000 went for permanent improvements and miscellaneous purposes, and \$131,626,000 for dividends—leaving \$64,764,000 as surplus.

Are Manners a Thing of the Past? Has Decorum Ceased to Exist?

By KATHERINE POPE.



ARE manners a thing of the past? If not, where are they? Although the decadence is more or less general, the masses have not been so much affected as has the unwashed minority. To-day I noticed two dinner-pail men rise from their seats while two ladies were yet in the act of boarding the car. Not long ago, I saw a Mickey lay down his pick to help a mother get her baby-carriage over a difficult crossing.

Among tailor-made men I have not noticed similar acts of deference and kindness. Is it that the newly arrived immigrant and the slow mind of the laboring man are behind in taking up new fashions, and some day, when they know what is what, they, too, shall cease to trouble themselves for others?

Far distant be that day. TO-DAY, IN THE CITY, THE LABORING MAN IS ALMOST THE ONLY SURVIVAL WE HAVE OF KNIGHTHOOD; a poor, unlettered, toil-worn one, to be sure, but we don't want to lose him. May the spirit of progress leave him long untouched.

There is such a lot in the way of doing things, in "manner," the wonder is people ever should neglect the cultivation of this particular accomplishment. And we do not altogether lose sight of its value. We esteem it so much we are willing to pay money for it. We want a respectful, attentive waitress, and when we pay her an advance on the market price we pay for manners. We trade with a grocer that is "pleasant," buy of the newsboy that greets us with a smile, patronize transportation lines whose officials are polite. That which once was given freely as gentle courtesy, that which once formed part of the education of the nobly born, seems in these commercial days obtainable chiefly for money.

"Has decorum ceased to exist?" So asked one of our great newspapers lately, and so repeat we now.

I, myself, am not prudish, believe in calmly and unashamedly speaking of legs and stockings if the occasion warrants; but I do not approve of boldly rushing into discussion of affairs whose publicity works for harm. And it grieves me to look about and find that my attitude in this matter seems unusual, THAT TO-DAY THERE IS LITTLE THOUGHT TAKEN AS TO WHAT IS DECOROUS AND WHAT IS NOT.

IS THERE ANYTHING LEFT THAT IS IMPROPER? The Young Person now seems to have free license, and to use that license very freely. Boys and girls of to-day calmly discuss questions mere mention of which once brought the blush of shame to the cheek of the mature persons.

Are we gainers thereby, or losers? It seems to me we delve in the muck quite too much. I am old-fashioned enough to value innocence and faith, and I believe where ignorance is bliss wisdom is worse than folly. Why should we dwell on doubtful subjects, fill our minds with all manner of abominations, when SURELY LIFE MEANS SOMETHING MORE THAN EVIL?

A KNOWLEDGE OF EVIL BREEDS SUSPICIOUSNESS AND DISTRUST, harms both evil-doer and him that knows of evil-doing. Soot falls on the unjust and the just, and both are smirched. It is all very well to talk of looking at life honestly, with open eyes; but there is such a thing as being too wall-eyed; so intent on letting none of the bad escape one's sight that goodness and loveliness are overlooked. These youths and maidens about us are too dreadfully wise, too dreadfully experienced, too unreserved.

Know all, is their gospel, instead of, Know no evil.

Katherine Pope

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Hearing, as a rule, is more acute with the right than with the left ear. Silk is considered unclean by the Mohammedans because it is the product of a worm.

The first post office was opened in Paris in 1462, in England in 1581, and in America in the year 1710.

The average rate at which rivers flow does not exceed one and one-fourth miles an hour. Even a torrent does not exceed 18 to 20 miles an hour.

Damascus is undoubtedly the oldest existing city in the world; Benares and Constantinople, exclusive of Chinese towns, come next in point of age.

Driving a steam motor car at Providence, R. I., George C. Cannon covered a mile in 65 1/2 seconds and five miles in 6 minutes 5 1/2 seconds, both being world's records.

Cows are scarce in Labrador, because it is difficult to keep them in the extremely cold weather. The natives procure their milk for the winter and then kill their cows. The milk is kept in barrels, where it freezes and never turns sour throughout the entire season. When one wishes to use any milk he has simply to go to the barrel and cut out a slice.

The latest report of the British post office department shows that the aggregate of deposits in the post office savings banks is about \$715,000,000. This is a large total, but it is no more than is contained in the savings banks of Massachusetts and Connecticut combined, and is \$200,000,000 less than is deposited in those of New York. The most striking fact regarding the post office banks is that the depositors number 8,500,000, or about one-fifth of the population. About \$150,000,000 is also deposited in private savings banks.

Corn Fritters.

Corn fritters are a favorite garnish to fried chicken and many other dishes of fowl and game. Cut off the cob a cupful of fresh, sweet corn, or if this is not convenient use a cupful of canned corn, drained and chopped a little. Add half a cupful of flour mixed with half a cupful of milk. Add seasoning of pepper and salt and two well-beaten eggs. This will make 12 fritters. Drop a gill of the batter at a time into a very hot iron spider in which there is butter enough to cook them. When they are brown on one side turn them to the other to become cooked through. It will take four minutes' cooking on each side to make these a fine golden brown.—N. Y. Tribune.

Preserved Green Tomatoes.

Take small green tomatoes, wash, cover with boiling water and scald until the skins loosen; then peel and drain. Take equal weight of granulated sugar and make a syrup with water and the juice of a lemon and a few bits of stick cinnamon. Put in the tomatoes and cook gently until they are tender and clear. Instead of the cinnamon, green ginger root and lemon sliced thin may be used.—Washington Star.

New Kind of Storage Battery.

A novel type of storage battery car, which in English tests has run 100 miles on a single charge, has motors that, when traveling down hill, are reversed and become generators for restoring the battery charge. An interesting feature of the battery charge of motors into generators is a breaking effect that is usually sufficient to check the car's speed without applying the mechanical brakes.

The phrase "up to date" is certainly made to cover a multitude of idiocies.

GROWING SCARCITY OF CLAMS

Their Consumption by Button Factories is Rapidly Ruining River Pearl Fisheries.

Pearl-bearing clams are disappearing from the sandbars of the Arkansas and the Mississippi river at a rate that threatens to make the species extinct in less than two years. The beginning of the end has commenced, and unless new fields are discovered soon the pearl-fishing industries of the United States will be a thing of the past, says a report from Memphis, Tenn., in the Chicago Inter Ocean.

The reasons for this are manifold. Of late years the demand on the clam have been more than it could stand. In addition to its "prize-package" manner of yielding up pearls, the shell of the bivalve itself is of value. During the past year 25 factories for the conversion of clam shells into pearl buttons have been erected at Muscatine, Ia. This now makes 55 in this one town alone, in which the clam shell is made into articles of commercial value.

Early in the year shiploads of clam shells began to be exported, and this has been the means of disposing of whatever surplus yield there might be and has also raised the price so that now pearl fishers are no longer obliged to grapple all day for nothing in the hope of bringing up a prize bivalve. These shells bring from \$12 to \$15 a ton, and can readily be sold to barges in which they are taken from the pearl-fishing regions to the factories.

Two years ago the Black river in Arkansas was the greatest pearl-yielding river in the United States, but its 30 miles of sandbars were worked by such an industrious gang of fortune hunters that nearly every clam was removed from its bottoms in less than nine months. Flushed with their success these hunters than swarmed out on the Mississippi. In this river the pearls are scarce and not so valuable, and not much was done in the way of getting rich until a very valuable pearl field was found in the White river in Arkansas.

Thither hurried the pearl fishers. All the past season they have been grappling for clams there, until now as the season closes, few clams are left on the sandbars. A few months or six weeks more on this river will clean it out entirely, and perhaps forever, of pearl-bearing bivalves.

The next most promising field is the Cumberland river in Kentucky. Here the pearls are very valuable, but very scarce, and it is doubtful if it will be worked to any great extent. When this river is dragged clean, whatever domestic pearls there are left must come from the Mississippi, and these are so poor and so scarce that fishing for them can scarcely be called an industry.

The Arkansas pearls have been of a particularly fine quality, some of them far exceeding the Oriental pearl, and pearl dealers in the United States, until they saw the beginning of the end, have been happy. Now, however, in view of the fact that pearls are rapidly becoming more popular, and promise in the future to be the rival of the diamond, jewelers will be much affected when the domestic pearl has become a rare article.

PRETTY WALL DECORATIONS.

Up-to-Date Patterns for the Ornamentation of the Various Apartments.

For bedrooms nothing is prettier than the lattice effects has been evolved.

Onyx, a paper really like a number of marbles, costs 60 cents a sheet, 24x24 inches.

Wistaria figures in a number of lovely new papers.

Striped bases are used quite a bit.

Nothing is prettier than the delicate moire paper in pink, blue, lilac or maize.

These one-color papers are paneled with narrow floral effects.

Paneled drawing-rooms should not have friezes. It cheapens the whole. Figured ceilings are in evidence.

To varnish papers one must first give them a coat of shellac.

Varnished paper lasts much longer for bathrooms, nurseries and kitchens, and is more healthful, as it may be gone over with a cleansing solution.

It is next best after tiles or a good plaster finish painted.

A stunning sitting-room shows an oriental print on red burlap with a ceiling brought down to meet it of golden yellow felt paper.—Table Talk.

Why Prometheus Rejoiced.

Prometheus, chained to the rock, was observed laughing. "Here I've been," he explained, "12 years without paying rent, and the terms of the arrangement are such that I can't be evicted." Hereupon he resumed his expression of anguish to keep up the game.—N. Y. Times.

Bread as a daily article of food is used by only about one-third of the population of the earth.

Lost in the Park.
A man had been absent for some time, and during his absence had raised a pretty luxuriant crop of whiskers, mustache, etc. On returning home he visited a relative, whose little girl he was very fond of. The little girl made no demonstration toward saluting him with a kiss, as was usual.
"Why, child," said the mother, "don't you give Uncle Will a kiss?"
"Why, ma," returned the little girl, with the most perfect simplicity, "I don't see any place!"—Washington Times.

Tommy Backbay—"Mother, is it a sin to say 'Rubber-neck'?"
Madam Backbay—"It is worse than a sin, Thomas; it is vulgar."—Harvard Lampoon.



Many women and doctors do not recognize the real symptoms of derangement of the female organs until too late.

"I had terrible pains along my spinal cord for two years and suffered dreadfully. I was given different medicines, wore plasters; none of these things helped me. Reading of the cures that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has brought about, I somehow felt that it was what I needed and bought a bottle to take. How glad I am that I did so; two bottles brought me immense relief, and after using three bottles more I felt new life and blood surging through my veins. It seemed as though there had been a regular house cleaning through my system, that all the sickness and poison had been taken out and new life given me instead. I have advised dozens of my friends to use Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Good health is indispensable to complete happiness, and Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has secured this to me."
—MRS. LAURA L. BREWER, Crown Point, Indiana, Secretary Ladies Relief Corps. — \$5000 forfeit if original of above letter proving genuineness cannot be produced.

Every sick woman who does not understand her ailment should write Mrs. Pinkham, Lynn, Mass. Her advice is free and always helpful.



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